Nippon Times

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GERMANS DRIVE OUT YANKS FROM HATTEN, IN ALSATIAN SECTOR

Tenacious U.S. Attacks Against Reich Positions in Maginot Line Are Repelled

Domei

BERLIN, January 17.—American troops which tenaciously rammed against the German positions in the Maginot Line in lower Alsace were repelled everywhere yesterday and the Germans in a counterattack drove out the Americans from Hatten which they occupied the day before. Latest reports said Hatten and Rittershofen are firmly in German hands.

In Ardennes, German troops were engaged in grim but successful fighting on the salient front between Malmedy and Bastogne and frustrated all American breakthrough attempts while German detachment troops occupied new positions.

Generally, enemy pressure against the German Belgian-Luxemburg salient was increased and fresh enemy forces were brought up between Malmedy and Bastogne as well as at Wiltz and Sauer where apparently the Americans are trying to establish new focal points at the southern corner of the German salient.

Renewed enemy attacks against Cortes and Briey were smashed in the German defensive fire and counterattacking German troops recaptured Bovies and St. Erpegny. The vicious tank battle raging north and northeast of Houffalize continued on a broad front with the Americans losing heavily.

Meanwhile, a revival of fighting activity was reported in the Belgian-Dutch frontier region north of Aachen. The enterprise, however, was restricted to local British thrusts southeast of Maeseyck which apparently are assigned to tie down German activity.

German counterblows against increased pressure by the American 7th army against the lower Vosges Mountains were successful as well as in the Alsatian area where German attacks smashed strong attacks near Phillipsburg and in the forefield of the fighting line near Rittershofen.

Local fighting was reported at the German bridgehead north of Strasbourg while in central and southern Alsace only minor engagements occured.

U.S. Loses 1,376 Tanks

Domei

BERLIN, January 17.—In the first month of the big Ardennes battle, 1,376 American tanks and 335 armored scouting cars were destroyed or captured, authoritative military quarters revealed today.

The announcement added that this figure does not include several hundred other enemy tanks which were put out of action. In addition, German air formations and flak defense units shot down 755 Anglo-American planes over Ardennes during the same period.

CHURCHILL MEETING STALIN

Conference Likely to Take Place at Teheran Very Shortly

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin will probably meet at Teheran within the next two weeks, according to a London report.

It was also revealed that Harry Hopkins, personal adviser to President Roosevelt, who is making preliminary preparations for the President, is expected to arrive in London within the next few days to confer with Churchill and Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary.

Meanwhile, a Washington report said that Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, may be able to attend both the meeting of the 'Big Three' as well as the Inter-American Conference in Mexico City on February 15, which may be postponed a week or more in order to allow Stettinius to accompany Roosevelt in his meeting with Churchill and the Soviet Premier.

Washington circles said that Roosevelt will leave soon for Europe to confer with the two leaders.

U.S. Plans Diplomats' School

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—A Foreign Service Academy to turn out diplomats reflecting the increased participation by the United States in world affairs, was introduced in Congress today by Representative McConnell of Pennsylvania, according to a Washington dispatch.

DRAFTING OF MANPOWER DEMANDED BY ROOSEVELT

Congressional Leaders Think President Will Call For Passage of May Bill

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—President Roosevelt in a special message urged Congress to enact legislation for the total mobilization of manpower for he admitted that the urgent need for such a legislation had increased since his last message to Congress, according to a Washington report.

Although the President did not reveal what kind of a "draft for labor" he will ask for, Congressional leaders predicted that he will call for the immediate passage of the May Bill.

The May Bill, drawn up by Representative Andrew J. May, Kentucky Democrat, who is the Chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, will compel all men between 18 and 45 years including 4-F's to get a war job or stay on the present one he has for the duration of the war. If he refuses to follow the order, the man will be liable to immediate induction into the armed services. The labor draft will apply to women.

The letter addressed to Representative May reads as follows: "In my recent message on the state of the union, I pointed out the urgent need of a national service law, and recommended that Congress immediately enact legislation which will be effective in using 4,000,000 men now classified in the "4-F" in whatever capacity is best for the war effort. The urgent need for this legislation has not lessened, but has increased since my sending of the message.

"It is true there has been a trend toward increased placement of manpower in the last two weeks, but there is danger that this trend, which was unquestionably due to the belief that Congress contemplated prompt action, will be reversed by reports now current in the press that Congressional action is likely to be delayed.

"I am familiar with the provisions of the HR 1119 (manpower mobilization legislation) on which hearings are now being held before your committee. While this bill is not a complete national service law, it will go far to secure effective service law between the ages of 18 and 45."

Roosevelt's message was accompanied by a joint report signed by General George Marshall, Chief of the Army General Staff, and Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander in Chief of the U.S. Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations, urging immediate action.

The report stated that the army's present manpower resources were being taxed to the breaking point and that the army needs 600,000 replacements and the navy, 300,000 recruitments or a total of 900,000 by June 30. It also said that 700,000 additional workers would be needed to meet the urgent war production requirements.

Moreover, the report added that eight French divisions would have to be equipped, the equipment lost in the German offensive in Belgium Luxemburg would have to be replaced, and equipment would have to be produced for reserves which at present do not exist.

Marshall and King, furthermore, declared that the increased tempo of the Pacific War was causing heavy damage to warships, many of which would have to undergo major repairs.

Byrnes Seeks More Men

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—Selective service to draft men of the 26 to 29 age group has been asked for by James F. Byrnes, Director of the U.S. Affairs of War Mobilization, in such a manner as to disrupt war production as little as possible. Byrnes presented a plan which would insure that the least important workers and those able to be replaced would be inducted ahead of the key men and irreplaceable men.

The Associated Press said that the national list of essential industries which covers all occupations contributing directly and indirectly to the war effort has been revised. It also said that some of the essential industries will be designated as critical, and these will be spared the loss of key workers. Plants contributing directly to the meeting of soaring army and navy demands for weapons and supplies obviously will get critical rating.

CIO Chief Opposes Bill

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—Congressional study of the "work or fight" legislation is still going on, and the House Military Affairs Committee has called Philipp Murray, President of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, to testify on a "work or fight" bill which is tantamount to a national service legislation for men between 18 and 45. Murray already has made known his opposition to such a bill.

A similar view was voiced by Lewis G. Hynes representing the American Federation of Labor. The chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee predicted Committee action within a week.

Meanwhile, Representative Andrew May, Democrat of Kentucky, voiced satisfaction over the fact that there is virtually a non-committal sentiment in favor of his original proposal to induct into army and navy work, men who will not take up their essential jobs. Instead, May said that the Committee will probably recommend the imposition of civilian penalties, and probably a fine up to $10,000 and five years' imprisonment for men who jump jobs without the Draft Board's approval.

FIERCE E. FRONT BATTLE GOING ON AT SIX PLACES

German Successes Seen in East Prussian Areas; Warsaw Evacuation Announced

Domei

BERLIN, January 17.—The gigantic winter battle along the extensive Eastern Front is now going on at no less than six separate battlefields between the Carpathians and Memel with increased fury, field dispatches said. German headquarters announced today that Warsaw has been evacuated in view of strong Soviet attacks.

Further announcements said the Soviets threw in 90 infantry divisions supported by 15 other units into the battle raging in the great Vistula bend and after bitter fighting Red Army spearheads advanced into the region northeast of Krakow.

Huge German successes are already reported from the East Prussian battlefields. Despite almost fanatic assaults by 20 Soviet infantry divisions and numerous tank corps and supported strongly by air formations, all breakthrough attempts between Rominten Heath and Pilkallen were smashed. In this fighting and in the battles in the Vistula bend, reports to hand have confirmed the destruction of 304 Soviet tanks during the past 24 hours.

Following the individual battles down the raging front, it appears that the Soviets are constantly throwing in additional fresh divisions and tank formations as well as air formations into their assaults.

Between East Beskides and the Vistula bend, the Soviets shifted their gravity center to the area southwest of Jaslo where bitter fighting is now raging equal to the battles in the Krosno area. The majority of the attacks broke down under intense German fire on the first day.

North of the Vistula, Soviet spearheads after weathering fierce resistance and losses worked their way toward Krakow and northward toward Skala. Other groups gained ground in the region of Czentochowa. One group was reported astride the Czentochowa-Litzmannstadt railway at Horzkowice and Orzbrza.

North of Kielce, the Soviets advanced up to the Konskie area while from the bridgehead at Pulavi, Red divisions advancing westward reached Radom as well as Przypuek farther north.

From the triangle sector formed by the Vistula and Bug, Soviet attacks were intercepted at Modlin and south of Nowy Dwor. In view of this threat, Warsaw, as already reported, was evacuated by the German troops.

In the city of Budapest, the German-Hungarian garrison continued to hold off Soviet onslaughts.

Their Majesties Are Pleased to Listen To Annual New Year Discourse in Palace

The annual New Year discourse was held at the Imperial Palace at 10 a.m., Thursday, in the August presence of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress. It is learned with awe that Their Imperial Majesties take much interest in electronic arms which are being employed in modern warfare to a great extent by all the countries.

On this occasion, those who were honored to give discourses proceeded to the Imperial Palace at 9:30 a.m. At 10 a.m. His Imperial Majesty, in military uniform bearing the supplementary decorations of the Grand Order of the Chrysanthemum and First Class Order of the Golden Kite and Her Imperial Majesty, in simple attire, accompanied by Tsuneo Matsudaira, Imperial Household Minister, Marquis Koichi Kido, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, Admiral Hisanori Fujita, Grand Chamberlain, General Shigeru Hasunuma, Chief Aide-de-Camp and others, proceeded to the hall. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Takamatsu were privileged to participate in the function.

Those who gave discourses were Dr. Seiichi Taki, Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Imperial University, Dr. Jinichi Yano, Professor Emeritus of Kyoto Imperial University and Dr. Hidetsugu Yagi, President of the Board of Technology. Dr. Taki spoke on the subject "Theory and Arts of Priest Kukai," Dr. Yano on "Special Traits in Chinese Culture, which Prefer Propriety," and Dr. Yagi on "The Development of Electronic Arms."

On the occasion, Dr. Shigenao Konishi, Professor Emeritus of Kyoto Imperial University, Dr. Hakuji Ui, member of the Scientific Research Institute and Dr. Yoshizo Tanaka, Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Imperial University, also were present as reserve members of the discourse.

GREEKS FACE DIFFICULTY IN STABILIZING CURRENCY

People's Living Endangered By Internal Unrest and Extreme Shortage of Goods

What with the internal unrest due to British intervention, and what with the extreme shortage of goods, Greece is suffering from a rising inflation of its currency, according to the latest information received here.

On November 9, 1944, Themistocles Sofoulis, Greek Finance Minister, announced on the advice of the Vice-Minister the following plan for the stabilization of Greek currency:

a) Issue of New Currency: The Bank of Greece will issue new paper drachmas against 42,000,000 pounds sterling held by the Bank in London mostly in the form of bullion. The new paper currency, the full redemption of which is guaranteed, has its value fixed at the rate of 600 drachmas against one pound, following the rate between the Greek currency and British military notes. Before the present war, the rate of exchange was 350 drachmas against one pound. In order to maintain the value of the new currency, its highest amount will not exceed 10,500,000,000 drachmas, half the amount of the paper currency circulating before the German occupation in 1940.

The new paper drachma has three denominations, one drachma printed in Greece and fifty and hundred drachmas printed in England and carried to Greece by air. The first issue of the new currency (November 13) amounted to 140,000,000 drachmas, according to the Economist, London.

b) Redemption of Old Paper Money: In the early part of November, the old currency circulating in Greece reached the astronomical figure of 250,000,000,000,000 drachmas, stated the Governor of the Bank of Greece. The Bank will redeem the old paper notes at the rate of 50,000,000,000 drachmas of the old currency against one drachma of the new currency.

c) In order to improve the credit of the new currency, the Bank of Greece sold the sovereign at the rate of 2,400 drachmas against one sovereign, which rate has since been raised to 2,750 drachmas. According to the Economist, the amount of the sovereign circulating in Greece in the early part of December was 8,000,000 pounds.

Stabilization Difficult

The currency inflation in Greece cannot be compared to the inflation of the German mark in 1923, declared Paul Einzig a well-known British financial commentator. In the case of Germany, the currency stabilization by the adoption of the Renten-mark succeeded, because her transport and production continued at a sufficiently high level, the case of Greece is entirely different. The transportation and production System of Greece were completely destroyed by the Germans, and there is now an extreme shortage of goods. Unless the political situation improves, with a large increase in the supply of goods, it will be impossible to stabilize the Greek currency, whatever may be the attempt made to that end, declared Paul Einzig.

Due to years of war, the country is facing an acute shortage of foodstuffs. As the winter months draw nigh, things are getting hopeless.

The Economist discussed the other day the situation in Greece and said that it was urgent to help Greece to solve its food problem. The magazine went so far as to say that upon the success or failure of the policy of helping Greece to get its supplies of foodstuffs depended not only the success or failure of the policy of the Greek Government of counteracting the effect of inflation in the country and bringing stability to the public mind but also the fate of the Greek Cabinet headed by General Nicholas Plastiras and the success or failure of the whole British policy toward Greece.

Strike Hinders Supply Plan

The general strike that occurred in Greece in the first part of last month wrecked the British plan to supply foodstuffs to Greece at the rate of 120,000 tons a month. According to the Manchester Guardian, the volume of foodstuffs shipped by Britain to Greece in October was 100,000 tons. There is no doubt that the greater part of these shipments were destined for the British forces stationed in Greece and that only a very small amount of them satisfied the requirements of the Greek people.

At the time of the outbreak of the general strike, the Supply Minister of the Greek Government made the confession that the stores of foodstuffs in Athens were exceedingly small and were enough to support the citizens for two or three days.

It would seem that Greece is not in so bad a position with regard to other commodities. There appears to be a large output in the country, for instance, of olive oil, which is one of the principal article of food of the Greek people. But the fact remains that there is great difficulty experienced in Greece in getting necessary goods to the markets because of the collapse of its currency system and the destruction of the means of transport.

The British forces in Greece have made rolling stock and gasoline brought from the central and eastern parts of the country available to the Greek authorities concerned in getting supplies to the people. But these materials were very small in volume, just like water thrown on thirsty soil. The British military authorities have cut by half the food rations of the British forces stationed in Greece in order for what has been saved to be given to the people of Greece who are finding rapidly increased difficulty in sustaining themselves.

Britain Establishes AML

With a view toward assisting in Greece's economic revival following the withdrawal of the German forces, Britain established the Allied Military Liaison (AML) in Cairo in March of this year under the leadership of Lieutenant General J. P. Hughes. The members of this body, on landing on Greece together with the British forces found the destruction wrought by the Germans so terrible that they could not do anything. Consequently, much expectation is placed on the activities of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) as witnessed by the opinion voiced by The Times, London, to the effect that Greece's economic future entirely depends on this body.

On November 19, last year, the Greek Government made public budgetary estimates involving £60,000,000, the revenue of which is planned to be filled with the funds accruing from the sale of foodstuffs provided by Britain and the United States and increased taxation on unjust wartime enrichment, tobaccos and liquors. The Government also effected reduction of salaries for Government officials in order to economize national defrayal and proclaimed its decision to pay the pre-war internal debts of the Government amounting to 20,000,000,000 drachmas at prewar money value, with inflated paper money with a view to countering inflation.

These measures, however, are considered difficult to realize and it is generally believed that the Government will, after all, be compelled to issue more currency to fill up the contemplated revenue, with the inevitable result of jeopardizing the foregoing measures for currency stabilization.

UNITED FREEDOM FRONT VITAL, JINNAH DECLARES

Lays Down Three Conditions For League-Congress Settlement at Press Meeting

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—Speaking on Indian independence at a press conference yesterday, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, President of the Indian Muslim League, layed down three conditions for a League-Congress settlement, according to a New Delhi dispatch.

The three conditions are: (1) Acceptance by the Indian National Congress of the fundamentals of the Muslim League's Lahore Resolution on the Pakistan Plan, (2) a modification of the Quit India Resolution of the Congress, and (3) revival of the resolution which the All India Congress Committee adopted in May, 1942.

At the same press conference, Jinnah stressed that "the only way by which the League congress settlement could be achieved was by forming a united front."

Governors' Rule Denounced

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—The names of 22 prominent public men who have accepted membership in the Indian Conciliation Committee set up by the Non-Party Leaders Conference have been announced by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, President of the Indian Liberal Party, according to the Delhi correspondent of The Times London. These include five former members of the Viceroy's executive council, a former Federal Court judge, three former High Court judges, three former premiers of Indian States and the 81-year-old Bishop of Calcutta, the only European named.

Sapru, who is chairman of the conference, emphasized that the Conciliation Committee will not attempt to frame a detailed constitution but will investigate whether there is a possibility of reconciling conflicting views and suggesting a basis on which a consultational structure may be built. Party leaders will be approached personally, and expressions of opinion by way of memoranda will be invited from different party organizations.

Concurrently with this announcement, the standing committee of the Non-Party Conference issued a long statement from Allahabad urging the immediate ending of governors' rule in six provinces, in five of which for the past five years or more, there have been no ministries and no legislatures. "The fact that some ministers tendered their resignation in 1939, however regrettable or open to criticism, cannot afford any justification for continuing for such a length of time the irresponsible autocratic rule of governors," the statement said, and the Committee appealed to members of the suspended legislatures to show their readiness to resume responsibility and accept as a working basis the principle of a composite government wherever possible.

The Committee said that if members of the majority parties in the legislatures should decline to assume responsibility, they should agree on members of minority parties assuming and carrying on as a temporary expedient the function of a stable government.

The standing committee referred to the "great and growing dissatisfaction and resentment among the people" with the governors' use of their absolute power in the provinces and urged the release of the Congress Working Committee members who have been kept in detention without trial since August 1942, contending that the political situation is so materially changed there can now be no reasonable fear of a revival of mass civil disobedience.

The Committee also criticized the recent decision of the Government in India on the recruitment of military police officers for the Indian Civil Service, and demanded to know why, consistent with the aim of self-government, the service should not be manned by Indians of requisite qualifications at the same time it demanded that recruitment from Europe be stopped without delay.

The statement added: "The Committee observes with deep regret that His Majesty's Government still persists in the policy of doing nothing to change the character and constitution of the central Government during the war. The Committee reiterate their belief that even under the existing constitution, it is possible to so alter the character and status of the Central Executive as to make it approximate a national government. This end can be achieved without any great changes in the existing act. Further, the Committee notes with much regret that no practical steps have been taken toward giving effect to the pledges given to Parliament about self-government after the war.

"Much valuable time has been lost by this policy of inactivity, which has only tended to foster a spirit of frustration and resentment among the people. If the pledge of self-government is to be translated into reality, steps should be taken now to achieve that end, and not only the people but the government must play their appropriate parts in moving toward that end."

80 B-29'S AGAIN ATTACK TAIWAN FROM CHINA BASE

40 Casualties Caused; 24 of Enemy Raiders Over Hongkong Are Blasted

About 80 enemy B-29 bombers based in China raided the central and northern part of Taiwan at 10:50 a.m. of January 17, it was announced by the Taiwan Army at 4:30 p.m. the same day. Bombs were dropped in Shinchiku Province. The enemy planes fled westward at noon. There were about 40 casualties among the civilians, but other damage was slight.

Enemy Planes Beaten Off

Domei

HONGKONG, January 17.—Attempting to disturb the Japanese rear positions, the enemy task force which attacked the Hongkong area on January 15 again carried out raids in several waves on the same area early yesterday morning. Fiercely taking up the enemy challenge, the Japanese Army and Navy Units on the spot downed or damaged 24 of the enemy raiders with anti-aircraft fire.

In this connection, the Government-General of Hongkong made the following announcement at 5:30 p.m. yesterday:

"An enemy combined formation of some 300 bomber and fighter planes carried out bombing attacks against the ground and naval establishments in and round Hongkong from sometime around 8:20 a.m. today. The war results ascertained up to the present include 14 enemy raiders (one is unconfirmed) downed and some 10 others damaged. Slight damage was sustained by the Japanese side."

Planes Over Shanghai

Domei

SHANGHAI, January 17.—Approximately 11 enemy P-51 and P-40 planes, belonging to the United States air force in China, penetrated into the skies over the outskirts of Shanghai at 2:50 p.m. today. Bombs were dropped in several places but the damage on our side was slight.

31 Enemy Planes Hit

Domei

HANKOW, January 17.—Furiously counterattacking an enemy combined formation of 90 bomber and fighter planes comprising P-40's P-47's, P-51's and B-24's which came attacking the Wuhan area and wantonly dropped bombs on the streets on the afternoon of January 14, Japanese Fighter Units and anti-aircraft fire downed or damaged 31 (nine are unconfirmed) of the enemy attackers during the intense intercepting attacks lasting for some four hours.

Five of the Japanese planes self-blasted, but damage on the military establishments was slight.

Of the 31 enemy planes brought down or damaged, seven P-47's (four are unconfirmed) five P-51's downed and two P-47's and five P-51's damaged were accounted for by the Air Unit, and three P-47's, three P-40's, (two are unconfirmed) and two P-51's (unconfirmed) brought down, and two P-47's and two P-51's (one is unconfirmed) damaged, by the Ground Units.

Over Tokyo, Kansai

One Mariana-based B-29 bomber coming by way of the Izu Peninsula penetrated the skies over Tokyo at about 10 p.m. on Wednesday. No bombs were dropped by the enemy plane.

A lone B-29 coming from the Marianas that appeared over the Osaka-Kobe area for reconnoitering purposes at about 10 a.m. Thursday was intercepted and attacked by the Japanese Air Units. The enemy plane spat fire and fled toward the sea. The enemy plane was seen to be relieving itself of its load, and in all probability the damaged B-29 is thought not to have reached its base.

One enemy plane came attacking the northern and central sections of Chosen between 10 and 11 a.m. on Thuraday, but repulsed by Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units, it fled westward toward the sea, it was announced by the Chosen Army at 11:50 a.m. the same day.

JAPANESE REPULSE, LANDED U.S. FORCES IN SAN FABIAN AREA

Nippon Units Are Also Furiously Attacking Enemy Along Rozario Highway

By T. TADA
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT BASE, January 18.—The salient of the American invasion forces on the Lingayen Gulf coast still remains pressed within the original bridgehead as daring Japanese counterattacks have repulsed all of the sporadic enemy attacks in the San Fabian and Damortis sectors since January 12.

In a move to force its way east of San Fabian, an American battalion equipped with three tanks and 10-odd trench mortars started its drive toward evening on January 15 and succeeded in reaching a point 13 kilometers south of San Fabian. The Japanese Units on the spot are fiercely counterattacking the invaders.

Meanwhile, a company of the enemy forces landed at Damortis started its drive along the Rozario highway on January 13, when the Japanese Units launched fierce counterattacks and completely repulsed the enemy forces. In this encounter, the Japanese inflicted 62 casualties on the enemy, and captured four Tommy guns, nine machineguns and a war prisoner.

On the night of January 12, Japanese closing-in units launched a night attack against the enemy troops at San Fabian, causing 20 casualties, destroying five machineguns and blasting nine enemy encampments and four motor lorries. The enemy troops of 300 strong which attacked a hill northeast of Bindy under the protection of 10 tanks were completely repulsed on January 15.

U.S. 7th Air Force Active

Domei

LISBON, January 17.—The U.S. 7th Air Force is reported to have bombed the Japanese position in the Philippine area on January 14, revealing its participation in the Philippine operations, according to a Washington dispatch. The headquarters of the same air force is located in the Marianas.

Davao Is Raided

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 17.—Davao was raided by about a dozen enemy B-24 planes in daylight on January 15.

2 U.S. Officers Killed in P.I.

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—Rear Admiral Theodore Chandler and Captain Robert W. Fleming, commander of a United States battleship, were killed during the operation of the Luzon invasion, the U.S. Department of Navy announced today.

Hart Succeeds Dies

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—Edward J. Hart, Democrat from New Jersey, who this week was formally appointed chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, stated today that there is "no foundation" to reports that the Committee will retain Representative Martin Dies, of Texas, his predecessor, as a special counsel, according to a Washington dispatch. Hart said that no decision involving the Committee will be made until a full meeting is held, but it was considered unlikely that a counsel will be hired whom the chairman did not approve.

BRITISH POLICY IN EUROPE SEVERELY RAPPED BY U.S.

Stettinius' Recent Statement On Italian Issue Was a Rebuke to Britain

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—The British policy in Europe was again severely rapped when, in the midst of the seething civil strife in Europe, Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, re-stated the American foreign policy at his press conference, according to the December 18 issue of Time, an American weekly magazine. Stettinius' statement reads:

"The position of the United States Government has been consistently on the basis that the composition of the Italian Government is purely an Italian affair. The United States Government has not in any way intimated to the Italian Government that there would be any opposition on its part to the Government's form. We have reaffirmed to both the British and the Italian Governments that we expect the Italians to work on their problems of Government along democratic lines without influence from outside. This policy would apply to an even more pronounced degree regarding the Governments of the United Nations in their liberated territories."

Along with Britain, the United States had been "sitting on the Italian lid" for 15 months since the Italian armistice, Time said. Now suddenly she had "jumped off the lid" with this statement, and two days later Stettinius affirmed that a new policy would also be applied to Greece. Continuing, Time stated:

Doctrine of 'Absention'

"Thus the United States is launched on a new course in liberated Europe, namely, the doctrine of 'absention' initiated two weeks ago by her refusal to guarantee Poland's boundaries. However well and democratically meant, and however high the motives behind the policy, it is a shot in the air for the United States isolationists. It is also a knuckle blow to Britain.

"Plain citizens are dizzy trying to figure out the 'consistency' of the United States' foreign policy, 'expediency' toward Vichy, flirting with Giraud, meddling in Argentina, 'absteation' in Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. Between the United States' meddling and abstention, Europeans are finding ground for a revival of their worst fear, namely, that at the end of the war, the United States will refuse as it did 24 years ago, to accept its share of responsibility for peace."

Time said that Stettinius' statement has also given "aid and comfort" to those in the United States who "practise the secondary form of isolationism, namely, Anglophobia."

It is reported that in the Senate, Allen Ellender of Louisiana declared: "Britain is taking the lead in causing disunity among the Allies. My belief is that Britain will persist in seeking to expand her own vast Empire and form blocs of nations here, there and all over the world. With our navy larger than the combined navies of all other countries in the world, and with a respectable army, it would seem that we could be able to force the British to see the light."

Some commentators labelled the rebuke to Britain as "rude," "tactless," "undiplomatic" and "quarrelsome."

But why was the statement made, is the question being asked all over the United States. Behind it obviously was the Anglo-American divergence on the basic question: What is democracy and how is it achieved? Both America and Britain agree that democracy exists only when the people in an orderly country have a free choice of parties and candidates. Britain asserted her right and duty to keep order in the "liberated" countries until such free choice could be freely made. Without apparently advancing any alternative, the United States condemned this as an "outside influence."

Communists Worry Britain

According to Time, Britain's worry was that "the tightly knit Communist minorities, aided by disorder, might have taken control of Western Europe, country by country." To this possible outcome, the United States' statement proclaimed indifference.

By the end of the week, Time said, Stettinius' statement had roused a "mixed reaction" in Europe. "In a ringing speech, Churchill made the British position clear," Time wrote. "In Italy, Sforza was cautiously grateful for 'American generosity.' Moscow, however, was aloof and silent. However, the Soviet-American relations have never been better."

Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, issued the following statement to the press after a call on the State Department: "I do not think we need be unduly excited about what has happened. There has been a lack of consultation on either side at any time. Possibly there will be a closer consultation hereafter. There is a substantial understanding between us, as always, with the aim of maintaining and developing the most frank exchange of views on all points."

Time pointed out, however, that Halifax's impregnable tact could not disguise the fact that Stettinius' statement had "let everyone down" and satisfied none in or out of the United States "except the isolationists."

Created a Furore

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—The statement recently issued by Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, that America intended the Italians to form a cabinet "without influence from outside" created a furore in the Viminale Palace in Rome, as it was regarded as a rebuke to Britain for its opposition to Count Carlo Sforza as premier or foreign minister, according to an article which appeared in the December 18 issue of Time, an American weekly magazine. The Time article follows:

"The atmosphere in the Viminale Palace in Rome was somewhat like the first circle of hell. Premier Ivanoe Bonomi and the secretaries of the four cooperating political parties—Liberals, Christian Democrats, Labor Democrats, Communists—were trying to reconstitute the Italian Cabinet.

"Well might the sharp eyes of Palmiro Togliatti, Communist Secretary and the most powerful man present, glint through his glasses. The politicians were closer to an agreement than they had been for over a week.

"Suddenly in rushed Socialist Secretary Pietro Nenni waving a paper. Hard on his heels dashed the Action Party's leader. The paper was the text of Stettinius' announcement that the United States intended the Italians to form a cabinet 'without influence from outside.'

"All hailed the statement as an United States' rebuke to Britain for its opposition to Sforza as premier or foreign minister.

"'Of Sforza, Churchill had said: 'We do not trust the man and we do not think he is true and trustworthy. Nor would be put the slightest confidence in any government which he is dominating.'

"Since the United States and Britain are jointly responsible for liberated Italy's Government, Churchill's statement had the force of a command, while Stettinius statement had the force of a bomb.

"The immediate effect it produced was like the second circle of hell. Hopes for solving the Cabinet deadlock blew up with a bang. Socialists and Actionists, who consider Bonomi a British tool, were less than ever inclined to enter the Bonomi Cabinet. For a while it looked as if even Togliatti might spurn Bonomi's approaches. But later he rallied to the Premier. Eventually Italy had a new Cabinet No. Two in it as Vice-Premier was Comrade Togliatti."

NO COLONIES FOR ITALY

Eden Says Future Status Will Be Decided by Anti-Axis

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—The Italian Government is not entitled to have her colonies returned to her and the future status of former Italian colonies must await the combined consideration of the anti-Axis nations, Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, declared in the House of Commons today, according to a London report.

Speaking on the prosecution of major war criminals, Eden stated that the anti-Axis have clarified their statement issued on November 1, 1943 after the Moscow Conference, which was that war criminals whose crime are limited to a certain geographical area would be tried according to the joint decision of the anti-Axis Powers.

Eden also told the Commons that Prime Minister Winston Churchill will make a statement on the Greek situation today.

Enemy Bombs Macao, Neutral Spot in Asia; Chinese Group Protests

Domei

CANTON, January 17.—Violating international law, some 20 planes of the enemy task force came attacking Macao, the only neutral territory in Asia belonging to Portugal, three times yesterday, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and again at 3:30 p.m., and directing machine-gun and bombing attacks against the radio station, vessels in the harbor, hangars and other important establishments, caused more than 10 casualties among the Portuguese soldiers and 200 among the Chinese and other residents of neutral countries. Angered by the repeated violation of international law by the American air force, the Chinese Association in the city is reported to have protested against the Chungking regime in the name of all the Chinese residents.

HOUSE REPAIR PROBLEM TROUBLING BRITISHERS

Authorities Say Progress Made But Give No Definite Promises Regarding Future

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—In the British House of Commons recently, Duncan Sandys, Conservative, and Mr. Willing gave what appeared to be encouraging proof of the quickened progress made in repair work on houses damaged in air raids, but the Economist of December 16 revealed the situation in its true unfavorable light when it declared that these two men had failed to make any definite promises for the future. The Economist further stated as follows, according to a London report:

The increased concentration of building labor in London revealed by the Minister of Works is something to the credit of the administration. From 21,000 in June, 1944, it jumped to 59,000 at the beginning of September and to 126,000 by the beginning of December.

The repair program has also been put under way with 200,000 of the Government's winter aim of 719,000 houses being restored to "the tolerable standard of comfort" and completed at the beginning of this month. Over 12,000 premises have been requisitioned for housing since September 22 which is so far good, but not good enough.

Problems of repair other than of the seriously damaged and uninhabitable houses, require only an organized direction of men and materials in which art the Government should by now be well in practice. Even so this first stage in the London campaign is serious enough.

In 53 districts 10 per cent of the inhabited houses have leaking roofs; the condition in the remaining 42 districts, Sandys said, is worse and the percentage may well be higher. Over 500,000 houses are still being repaired and the promise of completion by April 1, 1945 was received in the House of Commons with some scepticism.

The second stage of rehousing—that of providing new houses—will prove the greatest test of Mr. Sandys' ability. Lord Woolton has sounded a warning note in the House of Lords this week by saying that only an impossible effort can produce houses for everybody by the end of the war in Europe. That fact has become increasingly obvious in recent months, but it should not be allowed to stand as a excuse for non-fulfillment of the scheduled program.

Mr. Sandys' announcement was so abruptly made that Lord Portal said "pressed steel" houses cannot even be started until after the defeat of Germany. Other materials are available and existing designs and specifications can, where necessary, be speedily adapted to them.

Certainly the shortage of steel in wartime which Lord Portal himself foresaw, might defer production. What is postponing the housing program? Is it not the failure of Lord Portal himself who urged the production of temporary homes? The Government would be well advised to discourage any witch-hunting arising from Sandys' announcement.

Lord Portal said that the House has from the start been a target of criticism from the formidable combination of interests—those who want building houses out of materials other than steel, combining with those who want to make other things out of the steel they require.

Some of these interests are prematurely proclaiming that the Portal house is dead, and are now turning their fire on the proposal of importing 10,000 second-hand timber huts or bungalows from the United States, which suggestion was condemned on grounds ranging from the shortage of shipping space to their being a fire hazard.

This criticism is not surprising as it comes from people who want to build brick houses. It is difficult to be patient with such fatuitation. What if the Portal house is sub-standard? What if wood is inflamable material? Shelter for homeless people cannot be provided in these days more quickly in any other way.

Matsumoto Sees Decoux

Domei

HANOI, January 17.—Shunichi Matsumoto, Japanese Ambassador to French Indo-China, called on Vice Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General, yesterday, at the latter's official residence and conferred on various issues.

Wu Given Chungking Post

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 16.—Wu Tingchang, outgoing Governor of Kweichow, has been appointed Director of the Civil Affairs Department of the Chungking Government and will arrive in Chungking soon to assume his new post, according to a report from Chiang Kai-shek's capital.

Acute Manpower Lack Is Serious Obstacle To U.S. Demand for More Arms Production

Acute lack of manpower is presenting by far the most serious obstacle to America's munitions industries as the unexpectedly stiff resistance of the German forces on the Western Front and the large-scale operations in the Pacific now demand ever greater production of arms, according to reliable information available here.

American munitions production reached its climax in November of 1943 and then took a course of gradual decline until the summer of last year as optimism regarding the outcome of the war in Europe began to prevail since Italy's defection from the Axis camp. The anti-Axis invasion of northern France in June, last year, and the commencement of the Mariana operations accelerated this tendency and the United States War Production Board even saw it fit to announce that after the end of the war against Germany, munitions industries would be reduced by 40 per cent and 4,000,000 munitions laborers discharged.

While this trend of unwarranted optimism was sweeping over the United States, however, reports came from the fighting fronts that the unexpectedly great losses sustained in these operations had made it impossible to carry on scheduled operations. This fact then forced the U.S. authorities to map out new plans for increased production of arms and ammunition and motor lorries during the latter half of the year.

Toward the close of the year, the European operations entered a state of stalemate along the Siegfried Line while in the Pacific a full-scale offensive against the Philippines was launched. These developments of the war situation naturally accelerated the American shortage in armament. Demands for more rifles, machineguns and other arms were forthcoming from the fronts in increasing tempo and the Washington authorities had now to regret their earlier optimism regarding the developments of the war situation.

The German offensive launched at Ardennes on December 16, last year, offered a good opportunity for the United States Government to announce the necessity of bolstering arms production without losing its face. Consequently, the planned reconversion into peace industry was cancelled forthwith and current indications show that munitions production figures are going to reach the peak reached in November of 1943 and a long-term production structure to maintain that level is about to be established.

Granted that President Roosevelt's tactics may succeed in persuading the American people to gird up their loosened loins, the planned bolstering of arms industries are facing two great difficulties; one is the fact that the developments of war situation are demanding the United States—and other belligerents, as well for that matter—that drastic change be effected to produce greater numbers of large aircraft and rocket arms which require a radical reform of the traditional setup of war industries. The other obstacle is the shortage of labor, which has been responsible for so much confusion in America's strategic as well as production plans.

In his Congressional message for the current year, President Roosevelt again asked for the passage of the National Service Law which Congress shelved in its last year's session. This fact shows that all measures so far taken in regard to labor are now of no avail if war production is to be further increased. At the same time, this fact indicates that the necessity of maintaining the colossal personnel of the American fighting services and the appalling human losses being sustained on the European and Pacific fronts require urgent mobilization.

American war labor has rapidly been decreasing ever since July of 1943 when the peak was reached with 55,000,000 workers registered. America's attempted bolstering of arms production requires 23,000,000 workers, while labor personnel as at the close of last year totalled 18,000,000. It is believed that the success or failure of the American plan for increased armament production depends on whether or not she will succeed in filling this labor shortage of 5,000,000 men.

As for the fighting personnel, the United States has a total of 11,300,000 men at present. In order to maintain this great military personnel, the reservoir of men between the age of 18 and 38 has been drained. Whereas 83 per cent of conscripts until July of last year were men under 27, drafting of men above that age began to be encouraged toward the year-end, thus causing friction between the military and munitions personnel. It is assumed that the present conscription rate of from 66,000 and 80,000 men per month will increase in the future in view of the radical increase in personnel losses being sustained in recent operations.

U.S., BRITAIN KEEN RIVALS OVER TRADE EXPANSION

Britishers Anxious About New Mutual Aid Agreement Between 2 Countries

The American assistance to Britain is limited to the extent necessary to the prosecution of the war, while in the sphere of foreign trade the two countries are keen rivals, emphasizes the latest information received here.

Britain is maintaining various restrictions not only on the import from the United States but on the export of domestic products. The economic restoration of Britain depends almost entirely upon the question of whether she can redeem her enormous war debt by expanding her foreign trade. In this regard, the mutual-aid agreement recently concluded between the United States and Britain is worth noticing no less than the revision of the Lend-Lease arrangements.

Under the new Lend-Lease arrangements, the extent of American assistance is between 500 and 600 million dollars, but since this agreement was made on the assumption of an early end of the war, the amount will increase if the war becomes protracted.

In a recent statement before the British House of Commons, Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared that the foreign trade of Britain would henceforth be conducted on a definite plan. Britain, he said, had no intention to re-export goods imported under the Lend-Lease Agreement. The import under that agreement would be limited to war supplies and materials essential for domestic consumption, but the British Prime Minister added that Britain would make a cash payment for the re-exportation of any part of the goods thus imported.

The British public is extremely sceptical anent the new agreement, doubting whether Britain has financial means to meet the obligations, according to reports. In the House of Commons, a member asked Churchill whether the payment might not be made in kind instead of in cash. In answering this question, the British Prime Minister evaded the point, and said that the new agreement clarified the economic relations between the United States and Britain, adding that after the defeat of Germany, surplus materials and labor would be turned over to the peace industries devoted to the production of export goods or goods for general consumption.

The interest of the public in the new agreement is reflected in the lively comments on the measure, according to the same information.

U.S. SENATOR IS MURDERED

Michigan Offers Big Reward for Arrest of Hooper's Killer

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—A $27,000 reward for information leading to the identification and conviction of the man who murdered State Senator Warren G. Hooper of Michigan was offered by the Michigan State Senate last night, according to a Washington report. This is the second reward offered, for earlier in the week a Detroit newspaper offered $5,000 for the killer.

Senator Hooper was a star witness before a grand jury investigating legislative graft in the State capital at Lansing and had been offered immunity from prosecution for his testimonies on others involved in the graft. He was shot to death in his car on the night of January 11.

Meantime, Special Prosecutor Glen Seigler said that other witnesses have received anonymous threats in what is apparently a determined effort to block the work of the grand jury. He added that scores of prominent people including legislators have been indicted for the fraud, which is rocking political circles in Michigan.

Plan for Postwar Poll Set

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—The British House of Commons was informed today that it will not take so long as it was thought for a new Parliament to be elected after the war, says a London report. Polling day, it was said, would be just 17 days after the Parliament is dissolved. To give the would-be members more time for electioneering, they will be warned of the dissolution of Parliament three weeks in advance.

Law Back in London

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 17.—Richard K. Law, British State Minister, who took part in the recent talks on shipping questions in Washington, has returned to London.

DISARMING OF GERMANY, JAPAN URGED BY YANKEE

Use of Force to Keep Axis Nations Powerless After War Is Proposed by Vandenberg

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—The nearest approach to a definite American foreign policy, namely, to "use force in keeping Germany and Japan demilitarized after the war," that has yet come out of Congress was proposed yesterday by Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican member from Michigan, after the Senate's debate on foreign policies. Vandenberg even went so far as to advise calling upon the "major allies" to "negotiate a treaty now to knock the Axis out of piracy for keeps."

One American newspaper, in commenting on the speech, declared:

"It was a vigorous statement. It is especially significant coming from Senator Vandenberg, who in the past has been associated with isolationist thinking. He was the blatant type of the so-called nationalist such as Senators Gerald P. Nye or Burton K. Wheeler were, but his bold stand for practical and militant policies for internationalism, or rather of internationalism, was unexpected.

"Added significance is attached to his words because Mr. Vandenberg long has been a decided influence in the Senate, and upon the thinking of the Republican Party. He not only takes up the cudgels for international cooperation such as administration leaders have long advocated, but he wants to implement it aggressively and at once."

Analyzing the importance of Senator Vandenberg's statement and the attitude of the other United Nations, the paper said, "Undoubtedly, the cause of separate actions by Britain and Russia in recent months has been fear of resurgent militarist Germany. It is a pure assumption that if London and Moscow felt that they could bank on America's unswerving cooperation, all this fear-building would never have taken place.

"Obviously Mr. Churchill and Mr. Stalin fully realize that their power-holding tactics in Europe would incite criticism in the United States. They might not have engaged in such policies if they knew precisely where America stood. Senator Vandenberg, emphasized this. Russia, he said, had a right to say, how can you expect us to rely on an enigma?

"Regardless of how sincere and hopeful President Roosevelt may have been at the Teheran Conference, the British Prime Minister and the Russian Premier had no assurance that the entire United States would back up this plan for permanent demilitarization of Germany and Japan.

"They remember what Congress did to the League of Nations after the last war. They recognize that the deep-seated attitude of Uncle Sam for generations has been one of laissez-faire, or rather political laissez-faire outside this hemisphere. Senator Vandenberg wants to erase this doubt in the minds of our Allies. He wants formal action of Congress empowering the President to join with the major Allies in guaranteeing collective security, now before the war is ended.

"Then this nation would be in a sound position to demand that any unilateral agreement on world political questions be subjected to review by a proposed peace organization. With the eloquence of deep conviction, Senator Vandenberg declared the United States should never become militarily impotent. For this end is needed the maximum cooperation consistent with constitutional processes and proper self-interest to make the fundamental idea of Dumbarton Oaks succeed."

"I want," Senator Vandenberg declared, "a new dignity and a new authority for international law." Both the former isolationist senator's speech and the comments made on it by hundreds of American newspapers reflect two things. Firstly, that the isolationist minority which is against American participation in the war has definitely given way before the growing interest of the American people in victory, not only in war but in the peace to follow. Secondly, it shows the growth of American demand for a strong foreign policy to implement the peace and support among the nations of the postwar world.

France Getting Ships

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 16.—The British and the United States Governments will allocate to the French Provisional Government, subject to military necessities, a number of ships for the first three months of this year to enable the De Gaulle regime to meet some of the import requirements, according to a joint statement announced in London and Washington respectively. The announcement added that it is expected that the same arrangement would be made for imports to the other "liberated" countries as soon as this is possible.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

January 17

In Hungary, the Soviets were driven back in their attack north of the Danube and our garrison of Budapest continues its heavy defensive fighting in the center of the city. West of Jaslo our troops are engaged in fierce defense against the Soviets while in the great Vistula bend the situation is growing tenser. Here the enemy threw 90 rifle divisions and 15 tank corps into the battle. In the course of the heavy fighting, the enemy tank spearheads managed to advance into the region northeast of Kracow, into the region of Czenstochowa, south of Tomashov, and northeast of Warsaw. In the rear of the enemy spearheads our armored groups offered embittered resistance.

In the Kielce area our armored divisions prevented for two days an enemy breakthrough to the north and thus rendered possible the withdrawal of our troops on the Vistula front.

North of Warsaw, the enemy scored deep penetrations westward with 40 infantry divisions and several tank corps but the enemy assault was halted near Modlin, west of Nasielsk, and southeast of Ciechanov.

Between the Rominten Heath and Pillkallen, the Soviets with strong aerial support again tried to force a breakthrough with about 25 rifle divisions and numerous tank formations and except for a few penetrations sealed off in the meanwhile, the main battlefield remained in our hands.

In the heavy tank battles which develop north of Warsaw and in the East Prussian border region, over 300 enemy tanks were destroyed. Mobile formations and the Luftwaffe's flak artillery for the past 48 hours downed 62 Soviet planes on the Eastern Front and incapacitated 65 tanks.

Following the heavy losses sustained on the Western Front during the past few days by the Americans, the strength of the latter's attacks south of Malmedy and on the Belgian-Luxemburg frontier somewhat decreased. In several sectors our armored formations counterattacked, forced the enemy into a defensive and consolidated their positions. On the Moselle at Remich, local fighting is in progress, while a number of American attacks on our bridgehead at Fraulautern failed and the enemy who temporarily entered Hatten was thrown out again. In the Rhine bridgehead north of Strasbourg, our forces repulsed the enemy attacks launched with the support of 11 tanks and all but one of the attacking tanks were destroyed with many prisoners also taken.

London, Liege and Antwerp are constantly being shelled by our long range fire.

Yesterday night, our torpedo boats operating off the British coast and off the Scheldt mouth sank without any losses on our side two fully loaded steamers displacing a total of 7,000 tons out of a strongly escorted supply convoy.

In central Italy, reconnaissance activity flared up on both sides particularly in the region south of Bologna and along the Adriatic coast.

More American terror formations yesterday bombed cities in central Germany, while at night, the RAF raided the same region as well as southwestern Germany. During the terror raids on Magdeburg and Dessau residential sections were particularly destroyed. Night fighters and A.A. of the Luftwaffe downed 34 enemy aircraft including at least 24 four-motored bombers.

Facts Worth Noting

Iranian Government

King Mohammed Reza Pahlevi
Bey Bayat—Premier
Narullah Entee Am—Foreign Minister
Kemal Hadayat—Commerce Minister
Amanalla Aghlam—Finance Minister
Issan Sadigh—Culture Minister
Mustafa Adl—Justice Minister
Ibehim Send—War Minister
Said Malex—Health Minister
Mohammed Sujari—Home Minister
Nadir Bfaste—Posts and Telegraphs Min.
Mohammed Sadek Tabatabai—President of Parliament
Emir Teymur—Vice-President of Parliament
Djewad Ameri—Vice-President of Parliament
Mohammed Schayesteh—Minister to U.S.
Bacil—Cazimi—Ambassador to Turkey
Mahmoud Djam—Ambassador to Egypt
Madjid Ahi—Ambassador to Moscow
Yadellah Azedi—Minister to Chile
Sayyid Hassan Taqizadeh—Minister to London

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ELAS WITHDRAWING ARMY FROM SPECIFIED AREAS

British Troops in Salonika to See Truce Order Executed; Alexander Visits Athens

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 17.—Following the signing of the armistice, the ELAS are continuing their withdrawal from the areas which they had agreed upon to evacuate and there were no incidents yesterday, John Nixon, BBC correspondent, reported from Athens yesterday.

He said that Salonika, the second largest city in Greece, and the area around it for 20 miles, should have been evacuated by midnight and British troops who had been sent to the perimeter of this area are now working their way toward the center of Salonika to see that this had been carried out.

Meanwhile, Greek Premier General Nicholas Plastiras, in an interview granted to Kenneth Matthews, BBC correspondent, declared that if the ELAS rebels laid down their arms they would be able to participate in the free elections with the absolute guarantee that if they gain a majority they may take over the military power. However, Plastiras added that the ELAS had not made any approach to him or to the Greek Government and at the previous conferences their demands, he said, had been quite out of reason for they had insisted on retaining their arms.

It was also disclosed that Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Commander in Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in the Mediterranean, and Harold MacMillan, British Minister Resident in the Mediterranean, are visiting Athens again for they believe the situation has reached a stage where they wished to look into it personally again.

A London report in the meantime revealed that Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, in the House of Commons today vigorously denied the Greek and British comments that before Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens was appointed Regent of Greece, the British Government had given an understanding to the King of Greece that the Regent's power would be limited. "I can give a complete assurance that these reports are unfounded," he said.

Another London dispatch said that Sir Walter Citrine, General Secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, has accepted Prime Minister Winston Churchill's invitation to lead a trade union delegation to Greece, and that the party will be leaving for Athens soon.

5,000 Hostages Dead

Domei

BERLIN, January 17.—Five thousand out of 30,000 hostages arrested by the ELAS troops have died from cold and privations according to a statement by the People's Democratic Party, reports the Swiss telegraph agency from Athens.

Senators Seeing Stettinius

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Tom Connally, Texas Democrat, will confer with Edward Stettinius, Secretary of State, today on a number of matters relating to international affairs, according to a Washington report. It said that one of the problems to be discussed is a proposal calling for the formation of a provisional council to settle European regional problems.

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ORGANIZATION TO CARRY WAR TO END IS PROPOSED

New Political Body Embracing All Elements in Nation Is Suggested

A policy of dissolving all political or semi-political organizations in the country and bringing into being in their stead a political organization embracing all elements in the nation which would be exclusively concerned to carry the War of Greater East Asia through to its end was decided on January 17 by the committee of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association which was especially created in order to consider ways and means of achieving a national structure which might be depended upon to carry the nation through the war.

The decision of the committee will be considered by the political investigation and other bodies within the association and if it is approved, which admits of no doubt as the committee was brought about in response to the call of the day, without having power over the policy of the association, it will be laid by the leaders of the association before Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, association president, with a request to see that the political organization embracing all elements in the nation, devoted to the work of promoting the successful conduct of the war, is swiftly made a reality.

Then Admiral Kobayashi will set his hand to the task of getting the Government and various civilian organizations interested to cooperate in the realization of the all-embracing political organization. He is expected to act after January 20.

In the statement of policy which was approved by the committee there was no mention by name of the organizations which would be dissolved to make it possible for the proposed powerful political organization based on the support of the entire nation to be brought to a speedy realization. It is clear that above all others the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, and the Imperial Rule Assistance Men's Corps were in the mind of the committee when it acted.

The session at which the action of the committee was taken, which started at 10 a.m., was attended by more than 100 persons, representatives of various interests in the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, in additoin to the members who themselves were representative of both Houses under the chairmanship of Kazue Shoda, member of the House of Peers.

A member of the committee, Ryogoro Kato, member of the House of Representatives in the debate on the draft statement of policy, insisted that the statement of policy should be explicit about the removal of each and every obstacle, great or small, to the performance by the proposed powerful political organization of its function of assisting in carrying the war through to its end.

This sentiment of the member raised the echoes of the assemblage, although it failed to make its way into the statement of policy when it was adopted by the committee.

Tsuneo Kanemitsu, adviser to the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, in answer to a member of the committee who expressed the hope that the proposed all-embracing political organization would undergo no change in the process of its realization, said that subject to the approval of the investigation committee the realization of the plan of the committee would be sought by the association with full regard for the committee's wishes.

The statement of policy adopted by the committee follows:

"It is of imperative necessity to establish a domestic structure strong enough to allow the nation to make absolutely sure of bringing the war to a victorious end, to apply the total power of the country to the task of carrying the sacred war through to its end, and to conduct all administrative affairs fearlessly and swiftly as called for by the situation at its present decisive stage.

"As a means of achieving the ends in view the items should be carried out swiftly:

"To conduct politics with the measure of vigor which is needed in the face of the present stage of the situation by brushing aside all considerations which have ruled in the past out of the single motive to serve vital national interests, by renewing the governmental machinery, by gathering persons interested to serve the State and organizing them into a powerful national political organization with its mind set on carrying the War of Greater East Asia through to its end.'"

Obituary

Dr. Manitaro Niida, a member of the House of Peers, died of cerebral haemorrhage at his villa in Chigasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, on January 15. He was 73 years old. Previous to taking up law practice, Dr. Niida held professorships at the Tokyo and Kyoto Imperial Universities. Upon the organization of the Tokyo Bar Association in 1926, he became its first president.

Scribes Witness Special Attack Planes Ram Against Enemy Ships in Lingayen Bay

By M. MATSUZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

LINGAYEN FRONT, January 17. We members of the Press Corps saw with our own eyes the planes of the Japanese Special Attack Corps plummet through the blinding barrage of enemy fire unerringly into the enemy ships, as the enemy fleet steamed full speed deeper into Lingayen Bay.

Previous to the enemy's landings on January 9 at San Fabian, Lingayen and Damortis, the writer, accompanied by Photographers Oshima and Katsuta, rushed to the front lines to get the first hand news. The men of the Japanese Forces had all assumed their battle positions, grimly prepared to strike the decisive blow. In the distant horizon, the enemy's task force was faintly visible in the hazy morning mist, speeding inland from the northwestern side of the entrance to the Bay.

The planes of the Special Attack Corps had followed the white trail of foam of the enemy ships from the early morning of January 6 and kept up their successive attacks. The enemy fleet had been decimated to half the number as at the time it had passed the vicinity of Suragao Straits three days previously. A large number of enemy carriers had been lost and now the total number of enemy ships was about 50, but still the enemy let loose planes from the specially constructed carriers all over the San Fernando, San Fabian, Dagupan and Lingayen areas. Furious bombings were accompanied by terrifice bombardment from the enemy's 35 centimeter guns.

At this time, the Japanese planes that had pursued the enemy planes plunged straight on to their objectives in death defying ramming attacks. The shells from the enemy ships fell in torrents, but, unmindful of all personal danger, we stretched our necks to get a glimpse of the surrounding scene. The enemy barrage had overcast the sky with a pall of black smoke. Plunging perpendicularly through this curtain of smoke our planes rammed against the enemy ships. One plane followed another. A terrific explosion, and in the flash of white and black smoke, the enemy ship was swallowed by the sea.

With our own eyes we had witnessed the ramming action of our air heroes. In a short interval we ascertained the sinking of four enemy ships. The eyes of the writer and the men watching were moist with tears. There were some sobbing with the intensity of their feelings.

Commencing with the sinking of four ships of unidentified category on the morning of January 6, our Special Attack Corps instantaneously sank three (one warship) and otherwise sank four and damaged and set ablaze nine toward evening of the same day. Two more ships, thought to be warships, were again damaged on January 7. Consequently the enemy's task force took flight to waters outside the Bay.

However, at dawn of January 9 the enemy's second fleet of 30 warships, 158 large and small transports and 60 landing vessels had penetrated into Lingayen Bay and started landing operations. Carrier-borne planes swarmed over the entire coastal area and shells from the enemy ships were pounded ceaselessly onto the shore. Every town in Dagupan, San Fabian and Lingayen was subjected to a baptism of enemy bombardment. The enemy shells fell at 20-meter intervals. Incendiaries fell on top of the bombed ruins. All was razed to the ground before the enemy troops were landed.

The valiant men of the Japanese Forces laughingly remark in face of the enemy's wanton destruction that their sphere of vision has been enlarged and patiently wait for the closer approach of the enemy ships to release their sure-hit shots.

News and Views

Meaning of Liberation in the Philippines

By MINORU FUKUDA

In invading the Philippines the United States is describing her war of aggression against the Philippines as a war of "liberation" in similar manner to the war in Europe which the anti-Axis Powers are propagandizing as one being prosecuted for liberation. But what misery and hardships have been brought on the so-called "liberated" countries in Europe are already too clear to the world, from day to day developments.

In spite of the great efforts made by the United States and Britain to attach high political significance to the term "European liberation," there is no doubt that this "liberation" is designed sheerly to camouflage their militarism, which can only result in misery and internal collapse of the races to whom this dose of "liberation" is applied. That is so because the United States and Britain are determined to exercise tyranny over the "liberated" races.

In the Philippines also the United States is attempting to effect her own type of "liberation" which will nullify the noble and lofty object of human existence. Now is the time, therefore, for all Filipinos to look squarely into the true nature of this so-called "liberation" by America and to know thoroughly the terrible racial and political prejudice held by the Americans behind that high-sounding term "liberation." It is also high time that the one billion people of Greater East Asia looked squarely into the "abyss of darkness" into which the United States is wantonly trying to throw them by administering in the sacred territory of Greater East Asia a government which is in entire disregard of their will. It is also high time for the one billion people to strengthen their racial consciousness and unite firmly for the common object of smashing the evil designs of the enemy.

What sort of "liberation" the United States is trying to introduce into the Philippines can be easily seen from the following few facts. Firstly, the United States, before the outbreak of the current war, promised to grant independence to the Philippines in 1946. However, from disagreement in the United States on the Philippine independence question and also from the opinions which were later advanced between the authorities of the United States and the Commonwealth for a re-examination of the Commonwealth's fitness for independence, it is quite clear that the United States did not promise the Philippines independence from truly sincere regard for the happiness and prosperity of the Filipinos. The truth of it is that the United States intended to grant independence to the Philippines, not because they respected the racial consciousness of the Filipinos but from economic motives to exploit the Philippines. In other words, the United States saw fit to throw overboard the then existing economic relations of paternalism in order to make her commercial exploitation more effective and also to make the Philippines an object of exploitation pure and simple. With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the United States discarded her political mask toward the Philippines and failed to fulfil her promise of granting independence.

Secondly, it was only after seeing that Japan had granted independence to the Philippines from a truly sincere desire for the prosperity of the Commonwealth that the United States again proposed to grant independence to the Philippines but to be effective after the lapse of a certain period after the termination of the present war. This was a meaningless gesture, however, because the Philippines had already won its own independence and freedom in a perfectly free and unmolested condition. In this respect it is interesting to note that in the conditional proposal of the United States to grant independence to the Philippines, the United States included a condition for lease by the Philippines to the United States of air bases. Can such a proposal be called true independence?

Thirdly, what has the United States given to the peoples in the occupied territories in Europe? All that the United States has given them is misery, hunger, starvation and fetters on racial freedom. What can be expected of the United States can also be seen from the qualms and sufferings of the Chungking regime. In the conduct of her war against Japan from the Chinese Continent, the United States has tried to interfere with the military and political freedom of Chungking. The notorious Stilwell affair was smoothed over temporarily because of opposition by the Chungking masses against the American general's overbearing interference with Chungking's military affairs, but the United States has by no means given up her design. When it comes to the Philippines which the United States considers to be under her own shadow, it is easy to imagine the selfishness of her conduct in the archipelago. But there is this factor to be considered. The Filipinos have tasted the consciousness of being an independent nation of Greater East Asia and the right to be one, and no matter what the United States may do, that taste will never be forgotten by the Filipinos. That the United States will make all endeavors and bring pressure upon the Filipinos to forget that taste is quite clear. To achieve that end was the recent proclamation issued by MacArthur's Headquarters warning guerillas in the islands against their pro-Japanese attitude.

Fourthly, the Americans call the Filipinos "Brown Brothers"—purely a political gesture—and on the other hand, call them "loud-dressed monkeys"—representing the American contempt for all colored races. Look at the domestic administration in the United States. The treatment of the Negros and other colored races only serves to show that Americans hate and scorn colored races to the marrow of their bones. Even in her postwar security plan, the United States does not recognize racial equality. There is absolutely no reason to expect the Americans to make an exception and treat the Filipinos only of the colored races as their equals. Whatever the Americans might say their ingrained hatred and contempt of the colored races are bound to make them exercise militarism of the darkest nature.

ENEMY'S VANDALISM IRES JAPANESE TROOPS IN P.I.

Nippon Heroes Redouble Their Determination to Crush Yankee Invaders

By I. ITO
Of the Military Press Corps

MANILA, January 16.—The anger of the officers and men of the Japanese Forces on the Philippine Front was roused as never before by the outrageous acts committed by the American airmen who dropped bombs in the precincts of the Toyo-uke Grand Shrine on January 14. There are no words which can adequately describe the feeling which overwhelmed the Japanese when they heard about the enemy's act of vandalism.

From the night of January 14, the members of the Military Press Corps who are with the forces operating in the Philippine area have been kept busy answering telephone inquiries from the firing lines about the enemy's outrageous act.

Some of the inquiries were made in a voice full of the feeling of resentment and the members of the Military Press Corps when receiving them felt as though the angry words of the inquirers were directed against them instead of against the enemy.

This morning, the Commander of an Anti-Aircraft Gun Unit in Manila made his appearance at the place where, we, members of the Military Press Corps, were satisfying those officers and men at the front who were anxious to know the truth of the enemy's act of vandalism. When he learned from us that the enemy had actually committed the act of vandalism as reported previously, tears were seen in his eyes.

He said: "When the men of my unit learned of the enemy's act of vandalism, they proposed to me that they should be allowed to organize themselves into a special attack unit and go at once to smash the enemy on the Lingayen battlefield. Their feelings were exactly mine.

"Without doubt the Americans mistakenly thought that by resorting to destruction of material objects in the precincts of the Grand Shrines of Ise they would be promoting the spiritual break-up of Japan, where the Grand Shrines of Ise are the center of worship, and there is no element of wonder in this thought of the enemy. Is it not that the enemy is a believer in materialism?

"Nothing like the act of the enemy at Ise would affect in the least the spirit of the Japanese. It will not be long before the Americans learn that their act of vandalism at Ise has only roused in the Japanese the resolute spirit to crush the enemy, instead of smothering such a fighting spirit."

COMPOSITE WAR RESULTS

Domei

KALGAN, January 14.—The composite war results obtained by the Japanese Forces on the spot and the Police Corps belonging to the Mengchiang Army in the Mengchiang area during last year follow:

Number of battles fought: 750 of which 522 were fought against Chinese Communist forces; enemy strength encountered: 82,606 of which 64,342 were Chinese Communist troops; losses inflicted on the enemy: 3,084 enemy bodies picked up by the Japanese, of which 1,851 were Communists; 977 prisoners of which 577 were Communist troops; war spoils taken included light machineguns, rifles, numerous ammunition and others.

Acting President Chen Makes Gift of Sugar To Citizens of Tokyo

Five hundred tons, or 800,000 kin, of sugar, produced in Kwangtung Province, has been presented to the inhabitants of Tokyo by Chen Kung-po, Acting President of the National Government of China. The gift has been made in return for the goodwill and cooperation shown the people of Shanghai by the Japanese during Mr. Chen's mayorship of that city and also as a token of firm Sino-Japanese friendship as Japan and China fight hand in hand for victory in the current war. The presentation ceremonies took place on January 17 at 10 a.m. at the Ministry of Greater East Asiatic Affairs with Tsai Pei, Chinese Ambassador to Japan, handing over the list of presents to General Toshizo Nishio, Governor of Tokyo. Part of the sugar has already arrived in Tokyo and with the arrival of the entire lot, the Metropolitan inhabitants will receive a ration of 20 momme each, gratis.

REPORTS ON U.S. LABOR

Perkins Says Over 85 Per Cent of Disputes Settled in 1944

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 14.—Mrs. Frances Perkins, U.S. Secretary of Labor in disclosing the annual labor report of the Department of Labor to Congress today, said that the Department of Labor's Mediation Board had settled more than 85 per cent of the industrial disputes without any work stoppages in 1944, according to a Washington report.

She said that a total of 16,500 labor disputes were adjusted involving more than 6,000,000 workers. She also advocated the continued cooperation of labor and management in the postwar period. Her report discussed last year's meeting of the International Labor Organization held in Philadelphia and she said that the slogan of her Department is the slogan adopted at the ILO meeting, which is "Poverty anywhere is a menace."

Mrs. Perkins is the first woman Cabinet member in American history and has been Secretary of Labor since 1933.

Air Defense Unit Honored

By a Member of the Military Press Corps

SOUTHERN FRONT, January 18.—A certain Air Defense Unit of the XX Airfield in northern Celebes has twice been honored with presentation of certificates of commendation from the Supreme Commander at the front for the valiant fight displayed in destroying the enemy whenever sighted. The first certificate of commendation was presented some time ago, and the second was issued on January 13 for the achievement of a brilliant record of 20 enemy planes downed from September to the end of December.

F.D.R. Opposes Baseball Game

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 17.—Perfectly healthy young men in the United States should not be playing baseball at this time when the country is facing a great crisis, President Roosevelt declared at the press conference yesterday, according to a Washington report. The President, however, in answers to queries if baseball should continue now, said that it might be carried on if it is possible to do so without hindering the employment of the war efforts or the building of an army.

Yanks Teaching Chiang Troops

Domei

LISBON, January 14.—Many American military officers are reported to be now commissioned to Chungking units in order to instruct Chungking troops about military strategy in modern warfare, according to a Chungking dispatch.

Cabinet Advisers Meet

The regular meeting of Cabinet Advisers took place from 10 a.m. on Thursday at the Prime Minister's official residence.

TO DEMOLISH MORE HOUSES

Actual Tearing Down To Be Done Through Chokai Offices

A further tearing down of vacant and semi-vacant houses as well as the mass demolition of buildings in the vicinity of important facilities and key stations will quickly be put into effect, the Cabinet decided on December 22. Under this project several thousand houses will be torn down.

The special feature of the present spacing out of houses will be that, instead of the work being done by contractors through offices established for the purpose, the Tokyo Metropolis will purchase the buildings in question and then sell the houses to the chōkai offices. The labor for the removal of such buildings will be furnished through the efforts of the chokai. Old lumber from the torn down buildings will be used to strengthen air defense installations and the roofing tiles, doors, glasses and mats will be stored away by the ward offices to be used for repair purposes.

The houses selected for spacing out in crowded areas will be confined as much as possible to vacant or semi-vacant houses, to the removal of one or several houses whereby air defense activities will be rendered easier and to places where there is a necessity of constructing water reservoirs, air raid shelters or other vital air defense facilities.

The areas for mass spacing out of buildings will be chosen in accordance with the policy followed the previous time. Suggestions of the possible areas to be cleared will be received from the heads of the police stations, chiefs of the fire departments and the heads of the wards, and the final decision on the areas will be made by the Metropolitan Air Defense Bureau. The supervision of the mass tearing down of buildings will be in the hands of the ward offices.

The total budget for the project is estimated at ¥170,000,000 and will be submitted for the approval of the Metropolitan Assembly on January 18.

Social and General

Swiss Minister Camille Gorge arrived from Karuizawa on Tuesday for a few days' stay in Tokyo.

Mr. Pierre-Rene Michell, Counsellor of the Swiss Legation, is at present in Tokyo. He arrived from Karuizawa last Friday.

Lieutenant Colonel Fernando Navarro-Ibanez, Spanish Military Attache, spent a few days at the Fujiya Hotel in Miyanoshita.

Osmena Back in U.S.

Domei

LISBON, January 14.—Sergio Osmena, President of the American supported Government of the Philipines, today returned to Washington from Leyte accompanied by United States Commissioner Romulo and others, according to a Washington dispatch.

Press Comments

Thursday, January 18

LET US NOT HESITATE

TOKYO SHIMBUN—The Cabinet has adopted the policy of adjusting harmony between Command Administration in the form of a Supreme Council for the Direction of War. It is unnecessary to point out that this policy is fundamental for the prosecution of the war. The conceptions and means on the basis of which this adjustment should be carried out have been the subject of much thought by various Cabinets since the China Affair.

However, from the viewpoint of the essential character of our national polity since olden times, Command and Administration have always been unified and there exists no difference between the two. Therefore, the very core of the question is not a problem of how to shape the conception or means for the adjustment of the relation between the two, but how to carry into practice the unified fundamental principle for the war prosecution as clarified in the Imperial Rescript.

The adjustment of harmony between Command and Administration is nothing more than a way of carrying this principle into practice. Through this adjustment of harmony, fundamental policies are being established. That which is most dominating in this connection is the war, and the war situation. Accordingly, it is equally obvious that in accordance with the conditions of the war and the war situation, changes in these policies are being created. War politics on such occasions mean to step wherever, it is necessary to step without hesitation. In the annals of war, there are many instances in which hesitation at a time when emergency measures were required has resulted in great calamities.

Whether or not the war situation confronting us at present requires all-out emergency measures is known best to those in charge of the national administration. The people have full trust in their Government and are ready to respond to the Government's leadership. The demand which is being made for more forceful politics is a reflection of this trust and determination. Great expectations are placed on Prime Minister Koiso's statement and a concrete clarification of his ideas is being anxiously awaited. We expect such harmonious politics to be not politics of compromises and transactions, but politics which truly manifest the power of the entire nation.

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L'Assemblee Generale ordinaire de la Societe Francaise de Secours du Kwanto se tiendra le Vendredi 26 Janvier 1945 a 15h 30 dans les bureaux de l'Ambassade de France.

ORDRE DE JOUR:—Examen des comptes de l'exercise clos le 15 Janvier, 1945.
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Britain's Self-Seeking Policy

That it is the traditional policy of British Imperialism to utilize other nations for the sake of Britain's own national advancement is a truth that is being demonstrated all over again in the present war. The military as well as political and economic developments in Europe during the present war seem at least to confirm the fact that the British have again succeeded as in the first World War in beguiling the American people to make enormous sacrifices in men, money and materials for the maintenance of Britain's imperialistic domination of the European Continent.

One of the traditional propaganda techniques of the British Government to dupe the American people into lending their assistance to Britain has been to identify America's cause with that of Britain. Last year, however, the British introduced another propaganda device which has been shrewdly calculated to make the American people even more sympathetic toward Britain's position in the world. That new artifice consists in making tearful demonstrations of the utter economic impotency of the British nation. The British White Paper of November 28 of last year, containing 60 pages of statistical data, is a classic example of this new propaganda device to show the seemingly appalling weakness presumably wrought by the war on Britain's international position.

The figures revealed in the British White Paper no doubt reflect the heavy drain on British manpower and material resources. Yet, on the other hand, they also incriminatingly point to Britain's traditional policy of hoarding her manpower and resources by having other nations and peoples fight Britain's war. The number of British war killed in the last five years of the war, according to the British White Paper, is 176,000 or about 30,000 a year. This figure cannot be considered as staggering. In the United States, more than 50,000 persons are killed or injured in automobile accidents alone every year.

That the British have been able to keep down their war casualties to such a minimum is not due to luck. It is the result of the ruthless British war policy of throwing in colonial Indian and African troops on the front lines while the British themselves ensconced themselves in the safety of the rear. In the fighting in Europe, of course, the British have not been successful in adopting the same policy toward the American doughboys. But the British have been able to achieve about the same result by having the United States shoulder the main burden of the fighting on the Western front.

The British are, moreover, pulling the wool over the eyes of the American people when they claim that Britain's exports have dropped 70 per cent from the pre-war level and that Britain is financially bankrupt. This is only one side of the picture. The truth of the matter is that the British have the means at their command to recoup their pre-war trade. Britain has shrewdly blocked the sterling balances of the Latin American countries which run into staggering figures as well as those of India, Egypt and other countries. By blocking these balances, she is preventing these nations from transferring their accounts into dollar balances with which to buy American goods. Moreover, the British are able to produce certain export goods such as radio sets and cables far cheaper than the American manufacturers and hence will be able to undersell their American competitors. In addition, by bringing the countries of Western Europe within the sterling block and by maintaining her preferential trade system, Britain will be in a position in the future to revive her export trade and give the United States a stiff competition in world trade.

The British are again throwing dust into the eyes of the American people when, to point out the unparalleled exhaustion of British shipping power, they claim that Britain has lost 11,000,000 tons of merchant shipping in the last five years of the war. At the time of the outbreak of the European War, the British had approximately 21,000,000 tons of merchant ships. The loss of 11,000,000 tons would leave them about 10,000,000 tons. But during the interval Britain has also acquired ships of Norway and other satellite nations and constructed a good tonnage of new merchant vessels. As a result, Britain today has about 19,500,000 tons of bottoms which she could turn into the coming postwar Anglo-American shipping race. Furthermore, the British have another advantage over the Americans. That is, in converting their ships for service in the war, the British have been shrewd enough to convert them in such a way that they can be easily overhauled for peace-time service. On the other hand, the conversion of American liners has been so thorough that it is questionable whether they can ever be used again for the purpose for which they were originally constructed.

These illustrations should alone show how mercenary and how unscrupulous the British have been in enlisting the assistance of the United States. At the Teheran Conference, Britain succeeded in having the United States agree to the Europe-First Strategy, for the early conclusion of the European War would permit her to rehabilitate her industries in preparation for the coming Anglo-American economic competition in the post-war period. Moreover, in the war in Europe at the present time, Britain has been showing more interest in the acquisition of the spoils of war rather than in the fighting itself. She is taking extraordinary pains to gain political and economic control over the countries in Western Europe as a means toward enhancing her own postwar international position. Again she has dispatched her troops to Greece to obtain control of that country when these troops might have been sent to the Western Front where they were most needed to stem the tide of Rundstedt's offensive. It is typical of British Imperialism, however, that instead of showing appreciation for the sacrifices of the American forces which have had to bear the brunt of the new German offensive the British have been making smirching criticisms of General Dwight Eisenhower's military leadership.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that recent reports from the United States reveal the growing disillusionment of the American people toward the war. They have been gulled by the British to fight for British Imperialism and for British supremacy on the continent of Europe. They have been duped to extend more Lend-Lease assistance to Britain. Who knows but that Britain may beguile the Americans again into fighting her next war which seems so inevitable in view of the antagonistic ambitions of Britain and the Soviet Union in Europe?

A Year Ago Today

January 19, 1944

Japanese Forces carried out two separate attacks on the night of January 15 on anti-Axis positions in the Maungdaw area on the western border of Burma it was admitted by anti-Axis headquarters in Southeastern Asia, according to a New Delhi report.

* * *

The 158th Battalion of the United States Army known as the "bushmasters" battalion stationed in New Britain, is mostly composed of American Indians of 20 different tribes, a Washington dispatch quoting the announcement made by United States Army authorities disclosed. This unique battalion which is observed as first of its kind was formerly a cavalry unit which was recently reorganized and given special jungle-fighting training.

READERS IN COUNCIL

Quantity and Quality

To the Editor:

It is every day becoming clearer that the difficulties into which the "democratic" forces are plunging in their occupied territories are due to their inveterate obsession by the idea that their own silly system of government by party majorities is somehow invested with a sort of divine right which makes it obviously just and proper in all circumstances. They go about the world suppressing popular movements which do not suit them, lading out lavish promises of "free elections"; as though electoral manipulations were not a thing of which everybody is by this time thoroughly sick; and as if the despotic rule of majorities were of celestial origin.

The democratic theory is that a million people must abjectly submit to the absolute tyranny of a million and one; or even (as the celebrated Spanish election showed) to the tyranny of less than a million, if the latter manages, by hook or crook, to win a few more parliamentary seats, but the law of the Universe is not that majorities shall rule; it is that "The wise and kind shall rule over the unwise and unkind"—and that is not a matter to be settled by arithmetic. What must rule in a nation is the sublimation of its noblest instincts and aspirations. That is settled by Tradition and Culture, and is in nowise to be settled by Violence and Arithmetic. As your contributor Mr. Akimoto has pointed out, it is a matter of settled order—as Confucius saw. By departure from it a people may be destroyed or enslaved—but never exalted. It is worth noting as an arresting instance of the ascendency of arithmetic over common sense, that the British Government plan for a social future rests on the provision of a tiny subsidy per week for everybody in the kingdom, rich and poor alike—the inevitable result being a corresponding rise in the price of the necessaries which everybody must have.

Mr. Portheim in his book "The Discovery of Europe" points out how Europe has suffered by abandoning its own great tradition of Quality in favor of the American worship of Quantity. And the worship of quantity is just as fatal in politics as it is Art, Music, War, and Literature. Therefore, it is a subtle perversion of the facts when statesmen talk of "Ascertaining the desires" of a people by counting heads in an election. If there are profound divergences of thought among the people, it will not correspond with the facts if we identify the "Desire of the nation" with the desire of the largest group. It is the "concurrent majority," as Calhoun called it—the great united mass of the nation, beneath and transcending all divergences, rooted in tradition and culture: inarticulate, conscious of ignorance, and desiring honest leadership, that deserves to be taken into account. That constitutes the Body of the Nation, and its finest and best spirits will guide its energies as its Soul. But not by electioneering.

It is an instinctive process: this recognition by a nation of its true Leaders and Rulers. Not a thing to be done by ballot-boxes: nor often by barricades. It pre-supposes a worthy tradition of leadership—and if leadership comes to be conferred on the amusing speaker, the facile promiser, the blustering bully, the plutocratic patron or the degenerate noble, the doom of the nation is an imminent certainty. As Mr. Akimoto shows, the whole order of a sound state rests on the Home and Family. If these know whom to respect and follow, the State is secure. It is no quirk of political theory that has made Portugal lay down the sanctity of the home as the foundation-stone of the State. it is the recognition of an essential truth.

And the democrats propose to discard all Tradition and national Order in favor of Arithmetic and the tyranny of the odd man under the pleasant name of "free election!"

Under its remarkable "free election," a minority in Spain went far toward abolishing with its parliamentary control the age-old Catholicism of the majority. Under a bald numerical system, the masses become the prey of any ruthless, ambitious and unscrupulous faction. The masses mean well—but they are unskilled, easily deluded, absorbed in the job of making a living, and helpless cogs in political machinery. In our vast modern communities—for even Honduras, with its half million souls, would have seemed vast to the Greeks who coined the word "Democracy"—it is a solecism to apply that term to the rule of party machines run by able and selfish schemers.

"Democracy," said Talleyrand, "Yes: we know what that is: it means an aristocracy of blackguards."

Majority despotism is no more admirable than any other despotism. Traditional Order is the only guarantee of National and Personal Honor, Security and Freedom. It is summed up in two words "Suum cuique" hakko ichi. Thomas Baty.

THE OILS OF IRAN: A CURSE AND A BLESSING

Country Has Been Converted Into a Stage for International Rivalries

By OUR FOREIGN EDITOR

I

Oil can be a curse as well as a blessing. That has been the experience of Iran, which has oilfields capable of producing four per cent of the world's total production or 10,000,000 tons a year. This oil-producing country whose total oil deposits on its Persian Gulf coast alone are estimated at 16,450,000,000 barrels has been enabled to defray all of its important state expenditures to build its extensive railways as well as to establish all facilities necessary for the upkeep of a modern state out of the royalties from its rich oil concessions. But the tragedy of it all is that her oil resources are not really her own property, and that her country has been converted into a stage for international rivalries. Recently, the problem of oil concessions in the northern part of the country has become a serious source of dispute between the Soviet Union on the one hand, and the Anglo-American countries on the other. Thus, all on account of her abundant oil supply, Iran has been subjected to the menace of aggression by avaricious foreign imperialistic countries.

History of Oil Production

The history of oil production in Iran goes back to ancient times. History relates that in the capital of Babylon, asphalt was used for city walls and streets, and that ancient fire-worshippers adored natural gas as an object of their faith. But as in the case of Russia, it is comparatively recently that oil production as a modern industry has come to be developed in that country. Its exploitation on a modern basis really began with the transfer of the oil concessions by the Iranian Government to William Knox D'Arcy at an incredibly cheap price. D'Arcy was an explorer who had achieved considerable success in gold mining in Australia and who dreamed of establishing an oil empire with the great fortune he had already secured. Fired by this great ambition, he made an extensive tour through the desert and barren plains of Iran in quest of oilfields. His early efforts were met by repeated failures and frequently he made trips back to London to get financial assistance for his enterprise but all the funds he thus secured were also used up in the work of oil prospecting and drilling. But the special charter he secured from King Nasredein in 1901 provided the turning point in his quest for oil. The charter conferred on D'Arcy, his kins and associates as well as their successors the complete right and freedom to prospect and drill for mineral resources in Iran. He secured this concession for a mere song—200,000 francs. This charter incidentally included three-fourths of the entire territory of Iran, with the sole exception of the five northern provinces, and contained all the oilfields in the south-western part of the country. By the time he secured this right, however, he was already tired and exhausted and wanted to retire from business life, but for a while was encouraged by the discovery of a promising oilfield at a spot about 160 kilometers from Mohammera at the north of the Persian Gulf. Soon, however, he transferred his rights over this oil concession to the British firm, the Burma Oil Company, in his wish to retire from the active work and to nurse his tired body. However, there was the matter of the charter.

Many speculative enterprisers approached him from their lust to make a fortune by purchasing his charter and some of them even proposed to pay him a sum of 6,000,000 francs, but he rejected all of these offers. Once, when in his hotel in Alexandria, he was accosted by a thief who tried to run off with the priceless document. Sometimes, as a result of these incidents, he even thought of destroying the charter. On his homeward voyage to Canada aboard a boat, D'Arcy met a missionary to whom he confided his troubles over the charter and expressed his desire to carry on missionary work in Iran. The missionary sympathetically offered him a suggestion. "As Iran does not allow Christian missionaries to enter the country, why not donate the charter to a Christian organization so that the missionaries can go to Iran in the guise of oil interprisers?" he asked, "Peace," he argued, "would come to Iran if the charter is given to the Church; war, if it is sold to selfish capitalists." D'Arcy was apparently moved. In his simplicity he handed over the document to the suave missionary. This missionary was none other than a British spy, a Jew, whose real name was Rozanbuim, alias Sydney Leary, a member of the British secret service. Later he was to go to Soviet Russia as the head of a gang of spies.

Leary Secures Charter

Thus, it was that Leary secured the charter which D'Arcy had once refused to sell even at the price of 6,000,000 francs. On the basis of this charter Britain set up a company called the Anglo-Persian Oil Company with a capital of £2,000,000, and also took over the oil concession from the Burma Oil Company to whom D'Arcy had sold his concession. It was not until 1913 that the real story behind the Anglo-Persian Oil Company was revealed. It was Winston Churchill, Lord of the Admiralty at that time, who disclosed to the House of Commons the fact that 56 per cent of the shares of his company were owned by the British Navy and "a certain British Government organ." Having no great oil production in her own country, Britain had to secure as much from overseas as possible for use by her Navy and merchant fleets. Moreover, it was necessary that Britain secure a vast oil supply as cheaply, as easily, and as safely as possible.

The speech delivered by Churchill before the House of Commons on July 17, 1913; clarified the grounds on which Britain's oil policy had been erected. Stressing the necessity of making investments in the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, he declared that the British Navy should possess and control to a certain extent an adequate supply of oil resources so situated that they can be easily protected by Britain. In 1913 the oilfields under the control of this company produced 80,000 tons of oil but in 1932 the output was steadily increased to 6,500,000 tons and to 10,200,000 tons in 1938. The company's capital was increased to £32,840,000 by 1938. The vast profits secured by this oil company were invested by the British Government in numerous mining, oil, shipping, and trading companies whose total capital was estimated at £24,645,000. The Anglo-Persian Oil Company (subsequently renamed the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company) owned 93 oil tankers aggregating more than 1,000,000 tons and in 1938 its assets were valued at £52,700,000. Thus was Britain not only able to maintain a sufficient supply of oil for her navy but she also came into possession of vast financial power, thanks to the profits accruing from her enterprise.

Iranian Royalties Small

Although the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company secured enormous profits from its enterprise, its royalties to the Iranian Government were small. As a result Iran served a notice with the company in 1932, threatening to terminate the oil concession granted them. This act was only natural for the Iranian Government because they had to defray one-third of its state disbursements out of the royalties of the Company. Startled by this action, the British quickly resorted to its usual tactics of high pressure and intimidation. Britain threatened to refer the matter to the World Court at The Hague and to demand compensation for its losses; declared that it reserved the right to adopt all measures necessary to protect her interests, and at the same time dispatched a warship, the Enterprise, the flagship of the Indian Fleet, to the Persian Gulf in a browbeating demonstration. The Iranian Government responded on December 13 of the same year, asserting that The Hague Court had no jurisdiction over the matter and that it was prepared to appeal to the League of Nations. The issue was taken up by the Council of the League of Nations in 1933. Charged the Iranian Government:

1. The concession was secured by Britain through unscrupulous pressure.
2. The rate of the royalty paid to the Iranian Government was inequitable.
3. No Iranians are permitted by Britain to participate in the assessment of the concessions.
4. The company defulted in the payment of its royalties during the Great War, despite repeated demands.
5. The company refuses to pay the income tax.
6. The company's investments in other parts of the world are detrimental to Iran's interests.
7. The price of oil in Iran is unfair.
8. The company does not carry on the exploitation of oilfields to any great extent in Iran as compared with similar activities in other countries.

Countercharged the British Government:

(1) No provision was inserted in the original contract regarding its abrogation.

(2) For this reason, the Iranian Government has no legal right to annul the contract.

(3) The losses incurred from such an action by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company must be fully compensated for by the Iranian Government.

In this connection, it is well to recall that Britain endeavored as far as possible to conserve Iranian oil and to exploit oil located on the American Continent and in other parts of the world so that she could fall on her Iranian oil supply when the oil resources in other parts of the earth had totally run out. On the other hand, the real object of the Iranian Government was not to oust the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, but to secure as high a royalty as possible. In this, her efforts were rewarded through the good offices of the Council of the League of Nations. It is interesting to note that Iran's action was supported by a number of American companies, such as the Morgan interests, the Goodyear Tire Company, and the General Motors Company in the hope that their sympathy would gain for them some oil concessions in that country. This incident was, indeed, a portent of the future oil rivalry between Britain and the United States in Iran. A new contract was made between the Iranian Government and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company on April 29, 1933. Not only were its provisions more favorable to the Iranian Government, but the area of oil exploitation was reduced to 100,000 square miles.

The settlement of the Iranian oil concession dispute enabled Britain to supply its Mediterranean and Indian fleets with Iranian oil. Together with another company the Royal Dutch Shell Group, the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company thus came to exercise a great commercial power all over the world. It must be a great source of satisfaction to Britain today that Iranian oil made a great contribution to her series of battles in North Africa, on the Italian front, and in the Indian and Burmese operations. It is said that the United States 20th Bomber Command is also supplied with Iranian oil. Since the British Pacific and Indian fleets, both of which are planning to make attacks on Japan, cannot carry out their operations without the aid of Iranian oil, it is perhaps only too natural that Britain should entertain the greatest concern for petroleum from the wells of Iran.

(To Be Concluded)

U.S. INDUSTRIAL RECONVERSION

Unemployment Problem Is Biggest Concern for Working Class

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

II

Three bills for reconversion scheme were laid before Congress—the Kilgore bill, the George bill and the Wartime Surplus Properties Disposal bill.

The Kilgore bill was introduced by Democratic Senator Harry Kilgore. He proposed therein a vast plan for reconversion and demobilization, the establishment of a central organ to take charge of the reconversion of industries, the grant of a special unemployment allowance ($25 a week) for munitions workers and men demobilized who fail to find employment, the retraining of the unemployed, and the payment of travelling expenses to those unemployed who travel for the purpose of taking up employment. This bill was supported by the C.I.O., but objected to by the Republicans, who were rather disposed to support the bill proposed by Republican Senator Walter George.

Senator George was against special unemployment allowances, the Federal re-training of the unemployed, and the payment of travelling expenses to the prospecting worker. He suggested, instead, to keep up the States' unemployment compensation system enforced at present, newly bringing under this system the workers of the Federal public enterprises who have hitherto been outside it (limiting, however, its application up to 3,500,000 persons). The extra financial burdens in consequence of this arrangement were to be met by the Federal Government. This bill passed the Senate and the House of Representatives on August 10 and 31 respectively, but has since been referred to the joint conference of the representatives of the both Houses, because of the Lower House's opposition to the Federal Government's unemployment compensation.

Surplus Property Disposal Bill

The Wartime Surplus Properties Disposal bill was presented by Republican Senator Taft and Democratic Senators Steward and Murray when the unemployment compensation problem had led to disputes in the Senate. This bill proposed to settle the question of the disposal of the surplus properties independently of the industrial reconversion problem, in general. It suggested the organization of a board for the management of surplus properties within the Office of War Mobilization.

On the other hand, a bill submitted by the Government to Congress for appointing a committee to take charge of the sale to civil buyers of the plants and installations owned and operated by the Government passed the Senate early in September. The committee is to consist of eight members, and all the sales proceeds are to be appropriated for the redemption of national bonds.

A committe for the utilization of munitions plants was created within the Office of War Mobilization since then. It is run by Julius Krug, chairman of the War Production Board and others.

Roosevelt announced that he had instructed Harold Smith, chairman of the Federal Budget Bureau, toward the end of August last year to prepare detailed reference materials concerning production and employment, for the discharge of the vast and complicated work involved in the turning over to peacetime economy. Roosevelt sent a message on September 19 to Smith, instructing him to make preparations for the restoration of the various governmental organs to peacetime structures.

As can be perceived from the above, the Government as well as the people have already a keen interest in the problem of industrial reconversion although the war is not all over. This provoked the displeasure of the military circles and big capitalists, who have been assailing the reconversion talks.

The Department of Commerce has made public an interesting forecast of the unemployment figures for 1946. It predicts as many as 19,500,000 unemployed for 1946, consisting of 8,900,000 who were jobless in 1940, 8,000,000 who would lose jobs because of technical progress, and 2,600,000 men who would represent a natural increase in the working population.

War Aids Progress

History has unquestionably proved that wars invariably constitute the biggest of the factors contributing to technical progress. But, none of the wars fought in the past will be comparable to the present one in the magnitude of technical progress.

In the face of the big technical progress made during the war, vast multitudes of unemployed have naturally to be expected after the cessation of this war, so long as reduced purchasing power is unavoidable after the war.

Apart from the fundamental factor—technical progress—the demobilization of servicemen and munitions workers alone must naturally be expected to bring about a great disorder in the labor market and an outbreak of unemployment evils. The Gallup poll has estimated the number of unemployed after the war as 6,500,000, while Wahlstroem, Swedish delegate to the anti-Axis conference at Philadelphia, has put his unemployment estimate at 10,000,000 men.

There has recently been a remarkable decrease in the number of munitions workers, as a monthly rate of 100,000 since October of 1943, as the industrialists have been reducing the number of their workers for the purpose of production readjustment. The biggest concern of the American working classes at present is doubtless the unemployment problem.

In the American munitions industry, particularly in the plants operated by the Government, millions of factory hands have recently been growing so anxious about the future that there has been a reduction in efficiency. They show enthusiastic concern in, and support for, the reconversion of industries.

Interesting in connection with the above is that the Government's inclination to compromise small steel wage formula which it has hitherto stubbornly depended against the working classes' repeated attacks. Two commissions for inquiry into the cost of living, established by the War Labor Board, reported that the advance in the cost of living between January, 1941, which was employed as the basis of the small steel formula and the present has amounted to 25 per cent to 43 per cent (the small steel formula makes allowance for only a 15 per cent increase). On the basis of the above report, the War Labor Board is to prepare its suggestion to the President concerning the wage policy.

The abovementioned report was obtained as a result of actual investigation into the cost of living for these several months, conducted in view of the criticism raised by the trade unions in connection with the advance of commodity prices and the pegged level of wages. Chairman of the War Labor Board Davies has commented on the above report: "In consideration of the changes in the economic situation, the revision of the American wage policy is unavoidable." Thus he revealed his attitude favoring a revision of the small steel formula. Although it remains yet to be seen, of course, to what extent the possible abolition of the small steel formula will mitigate the workers' discontents, yet one can perceive therefrom the probable course of the wage policy that will be followed hereafter.

James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization, instructed various governmental organs on September 21: "In order to facilitate the smooth reconversion of industries, the various organs working on behalf of the Government should take steps to submit to the employers and employes necessary informations of orders and contracts which it is planning to reduce or cancel."

(To Be Concluded)

Boiled Cabbage

When Junior was asked in chemistry class what pervades all space, he replied: "The smell of boiled cabbage."

HUMAN ROCKETS

Unsurpassed Heroism Displayed By Special Attack Units

By MASAO MAIYA

Over the Philippines today is being unfolded one of the greatest war-time epics in the history of mankind. It is a grim story of one man and a plane against tons of hard-wrought steel; it is a stirring story of the victory of the spiritual forces over the forces of materialism.

It is the story of the Kamikaze Special Attack Units of the Japanese Navy and the Special Attack Units of the Japanese Army—the Banda, Yasukuni, Hakko, Ichiu, Gokoku, Sekicho, Tesshin, and Kinno Units—whose names are associated with symbols which are so precious to the Japanese people. The enemy, of course, has other names for these Special Attack Units. He calls them the "banzai attack" units, apparently from the fact that the heroic pilots of these planes shout "Banzai" before they ram their planes against their target. But lately he has apparently found another name for these Special Attack Units. Smitten by terror by their fearless charges the enemy has rechristened them the "suicide attack" corps. Perhaps this change in the appellation reveals more than anything else the deep, mortal fear of the enemy for the men who feel that death is the crowning sacrifice they can make in the defense of their country.

How successful have been their activities is shown by the events of the operations in Leyte. The Special Attack Units came into action over the skies of the Philippines as the time the enemy landing forces were advancing toward the Dagami plains from their landing bases at Tacloban and Durag against the Japanese ground units encamped on the east side of the mountain range that separates the Dagami from the Ormoc plain. Some of the Special Attack Units sank enemy aircraft carriers, others sank battleships, and still others sent cruisers and transports and destroyers whirling down to the bottom of the sea. In some cases one human rocket was enough to sink one enemy war vessel. The appearance of these human rockets was also followed by the appearance of the Kaoru Special Attack Air Unit which made its sudden and spectacular descent on the enemy airfields at Durag and Brauen on November 26. Still another stirring chapter was written when the dramatic attack was carried out by the Takachiho paratroops on the enemy airfields not only at Brauen and Durag but also at San Pablo and Tacloban.

Spirit of Self-Sacrifice

These heroic deeds of the Special Attack Units are by no means without precedent. They are but another phase of the daring heroism of the men in the Japanese fighting services. They represent the same spirit of unsurpassed heroism that was displayed by the Japanese garrisons at Attu, Rout, and Saipan. They symbolize the same spirit of self-sacrifice shown by such heroes as Lieutenant Sanae Ishii, who on March 16, 1943, rammed his plane against that of the enemy in an air battle over Burma; Sergeant Major Tadao Oda, who hurled his aircraft against the enemy B-17 at an Australian air base on May 8, 1943; Sergeant Major Ishikawa, who while convoying a squadron in the Indian Ocean, blasted his plane against the enemy torpedo which was aimed at one of the Japanese ships; and two other dare-devils, Nobe and Takagi, who also rammed their planes against the enemy raiders who came over northern Kyushu on August 20, 1944.

Indeed, the matchless fighting spirit of the Japanese armed services has been greatly responsible for increasing the toll of enemy losses in the Pacific. According to the Imperial Headquarters announcement on December 8, 1944, the third anniversary of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the total casualties inflicted on the Anglo-American forces amount to 304,000 men; the number of enemy aircraft carriers sunk total 88; battleships sunk or damaged, 31; while the number of enemy aircraft shot down or damaged total 14,400.

The signal achievement of this plane-ramming-ship tactics is that the enemy has been forced to revise his strategy. The success with which these tactics has been carried out, indeed, must be considered a great victory of the spiritual forces over the enemy's material power. By spiritual forces we mean, of course, the ability of the High Command, the bravery of the soldiers, and the spirit of the home front—factors which, as Karl von Clausewitz pointed out, can not be measured but which nevertheless exert a profound effect on the outcome of the war. The key, it seems, has at last been found to turn the tide of war in Japan's favor to the everlasting glory of the people of East Asia.

Rusty, Too

A shipyard worker started work after a long spell of unemployment.

As he opened out his tools, the foreman remarked, "Your tools are very rusty, John."

"Aye," was the dry retort, "but you should see the frying pan."